Meet Our Lobby Monitors

Monitors will be stationed at a desk in the lobby of the Ponderosa building during classes from 5-9pm on Mondays, 6-9pm on Tuesday-Thursday and 6-8pm on Fridays. Monitors are responsible and friendly student workers who will sign students in and out, ensure proper conduct in the building, and provide basic information about Academy programs and campus locations to the public.

Alexa Ballance is currently a sophomore at Northern Arizona University. She is studying to get her bachelor’s degree in comparative cultural studies and has an emphasis in humanities. She appreciated all the arts, and has a background in choral, theatrical, and dance education. Singing in choirs since the age of eleven, Alexa joined Tempe, Arizona’s Corona del Sol High School choir program at age fourteen. She was also part of Corona’s choir stage crew and managed the crew during her senior year during which time she oversaw all technical and managerial responsibilities in the auditorium. Her senior year of high school, she also joined Corona’s dance program. Alexa will be working on Monday evenings.

Robert Decoste is originally from California, is currently a senior attending Northern Arizona University. As a transfer student, Robert will be pursuing his bachelor’s degree in music education with a choral emphasis. Prior to NAU, Robert served three years in the Mt. San Antonio College Chamber Singers, under the direction of Bruce Rogers. During his time, he served as Tenor Section Leader as well as Assistant Student Director. Along with the Chamber Singers, Robert participated in the schools vocal jazz choir, Frontline, as well as their a cappella group, Fermata Nowhere. Before joining the Chamber Singers and the choral department, Robert was an instrumentalist and spent eight years studying trombone, performing in multiple Wind and Jazz Ensembles and Marching Bands. He also spent several summers on tour with Pacific Crest Drum and Bugle Corps as a Euphonium player and a Drum Major. Robert will be working on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Michelle Robb is a sophomore at Northern Arizona University. She graduated from high school at Corona Del Sol in Tempe, Arizona and was in the dance and choir program there for four years. She has played piano for over ten years and has a great appreciation for the arts. This past summer, Michelle worked at a summer arts camp as a teacher’s assistant in the dance program. She is currently attending NAU in the music program pursuing a BA in music with emphasis on voice as well as a minor in studio art. Michelle is very excited to have this opportunity to work at the NAU Community Music and Dance Academy and to get to know all of the families and students. Michelle will be working on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Congratulations!

Recipients of the 2014-2015 Catharine B. Adel Music Scholarship include Danielle Baker (piano), Hannah Gripp (violin), Liam Guise (cello), Zachary Guise (violin), Jessica Han (piano), Cori Jarmer (violin), Daniel Lim (piano), Justine Ormsby (violin), Faviola Ortiz (violin), Mary Schlanger (horn), Mahala Schmitz (viola), Gracie Castro (violin), Kalyana Connor-Gordon (piano), Madeleine Dee (violin), Sagamore Dee (violin), and Cyan Salligo (violin). You can hear all recipients perform in the honor recital on May 19, 2015 at 4pm in Ashurst Hall. Thank you also to those who served on the review committee!

Thank You!

The NAU Community Music and Dance Academy is honored to accept a generous grant from the Flagstaff Community Foundation. This grant will be applied to various aspects of the music program within the Academy including repair and procurement of instruments to be available for rent.

Nutcracker Tea Tickets On Sale Now!

Individual tickets and tables are on sale now through the Academy Office for this year’s Nutcracker Tea. The event includes a light lunch served with tea, coffee, hot chocolate, and holiday desserts. Guests can look forward to arts and crafts for the kids, a reading of The Nutcracker by NAU voice coordinator, Dr. Judith Cloud, and a silent auction. The Sugar Plum Fairy will teach a special dance and costumed dancers will be available to pose with guests for pictures. Ticket prices increase after October 31st so plan ahead!
**Upcoming Events**

**10/15, 16/14:** Suzuki Formal Recitals, 4pm, 5pm, & 6pm, Ashurst Hall

**10/17-18/14:** ASA Workshop and Phoenix Symphony trip

**10/20/14:** No orchestra rehearsal

**10/24/14:** YAGP entry forms and payments due

**10/31/14:** Second quarterly payments due; all final fall payments due!!!

**11/1/14:** Nutcracker Tea ticket prices increase

**11/3/14:** Orchesta Sectionals, 6:30pm, NAU School of Music (rehearsal to follow)

**11/4/14** Piano Recitals, 6pm & 7pm, Ashurst Hall

**11/11/14:** VETERANS DAY—OFFICE CLOSED—No Classes or Rehearsals

**11/15/14:** Nutcracker Tea, 11am, Little America, call for reservations

**11/22/14:** Mountain Campus Arts & Crafts Fair, Suzuki performance 10am and Dance performance 11am, du Bois Conference Center Ballroom

**11/24/14:** Extra rehearsal for mice (Grade1), soldiers (Grade 5), Claras, prince, & mouse king, 5-6pm, Studio A

**11/26-29/14:** Thanksgiving Break—No Classes or Rehearsals

**11/27-28/14:** THANKSGIVING—OFFICE CLOSED

**12/1/14:** Nutcracker Act II finale rehearsals, 4 – 5:30pm (Green Cast), 5:30 -7pm (White Cast), Studio A

**12/2/14:** Nutcracker Act II finale rehearsal, 4-5:30pm (Red Cast); Grade 6+, 5:30-7pm, Studio A

**12/3/14:** Nutcracker dress rehearsal (Green Cast) 7pm, Ardrey Memorial Auditorium

**12/4/14:** Suzuki Group Recital, 4:15pm, Shepard of the Hills Church

**12/4/14:** Nutcracker dress rehearsals (White & Red Casts) 7pm, Ardrey Memorial Auditorium

**12/4/14:** Voice Studio Master Class, 7-9:30 pm, room 147

**12/5/14 & 12/6/14:** The Nutcracker, 7:30pm, Ardrey Memorial Auditorium

**12/6/14:** Lollipop Nutcracker performance, 2pm, Ardrey Memorial Auditorium

**12/9/14:** Voice dress rehearsal, 5:30-8:30pm, room 147

**12/10, 11/14:** Suzuki Formal Recitals, 4pm, 5pm & 6pm, Ashurst Hall

**12/11/14:** Voice recital, 6:15pm, room 147

**12/12/22-14-4/15**: Winter Break—no classes or rehearsals

**1/5/15:** Orchestra dress rehearsal, 6:30pm, Ardrey Memorial Auditorium

**1/11/15:** Concerto competition, contact the office to schedule audition, room 125

**Weather Closures & Delays**
The days are getting shorter and weather colder! All weather related cancellations, delays, and closures will be updated on our **Snow Line at (928) 523-2333**. Please check this number for updates before calling the Academy Office. We will also continue to do our best to update our Facebook and main website pages with the latest information.

**We Want Your Pictures**

Please send us pictures from events throughout the community, recitals, classes, lessons, and anywhere else your student is representing the Academy. We would love to share these photos in our newsletter, on our website, and more!